



SUPERMAN
ACTION
COMICS

19

THE NEW 52!

ANDY
DIGGLE
TONY S.
DANIEL
BATT

JUN 2013

RATED T TEEN

**MY
GREATEST
ENEMY...**

**JIMMY
DOISEN?!**

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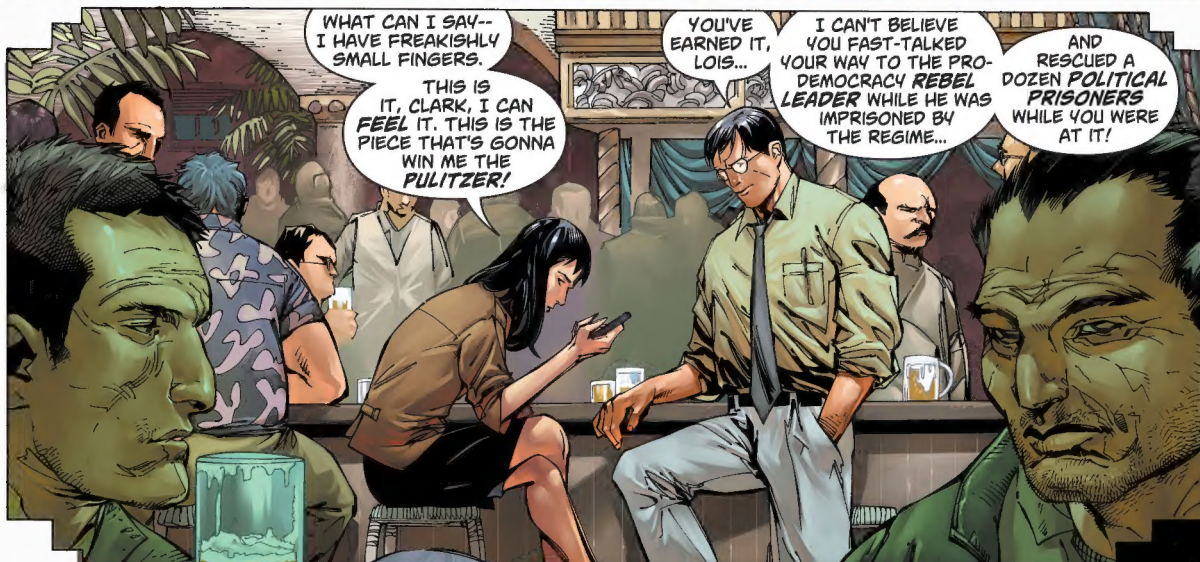
RATED T TEEN

MY
GREATEST
ENEMY...

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"HOW CAN YOU SPEED-TYPE ON A PHONE SCREEN? I'M ALL THUMBS WITH THOSE THINGS..."



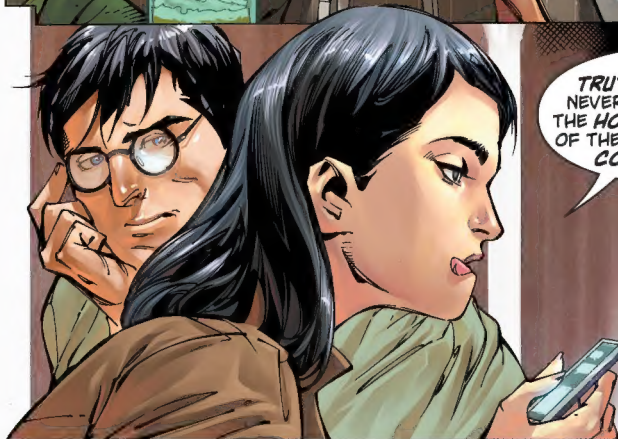
WHAT CAN I SAY-- I HAVE FREAKISHLY SMALL FINGERS.

THIS IS IT, CLARK, I CAN FEEL IT. THIS IS THE PIECE THAT'S GONNA WIN ME THE PULITZER!

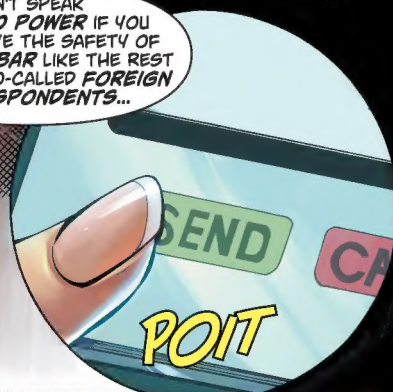
YOU'VE EARNED IT, LOIS...

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU FAST-TALKED YOUR WAY TO THE PRO-DEMOCRACY REBEL LEADER WHILE HE WAS IMPRISONED BY THE REGIME...

AND RESCUED A DOZEN POLITICAL PRISONERS WHILE YOU WERE AT IT!



CAN'T SPEAK TRUTH TO POWER IF YOU NEVER LEAVE THE SAFETY OF THE HOTEL BAR LIKE THE REST OF THESE SO-CALLED FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS...

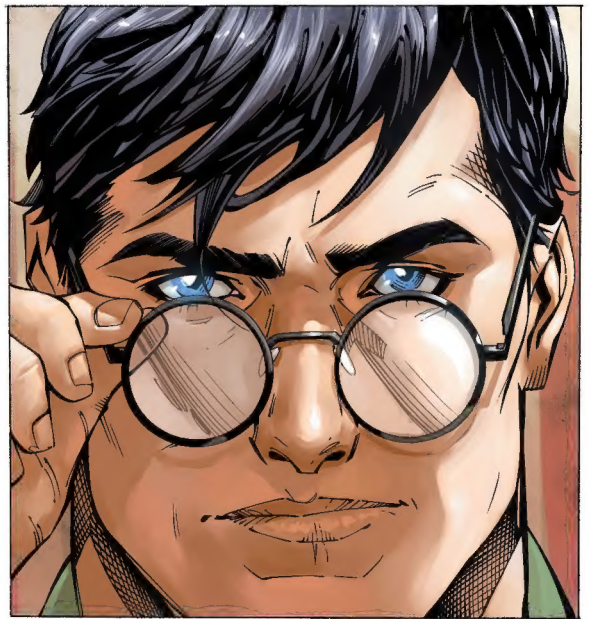


THERE-- IT'S OFF TO THE PLANET! THIS CALLS FOR DRINKS--

--PLURAL!

BARKEEP--!







TERRIFIC. THE ONE GUY WORTH A DAMN AROUND HERE WOULD RATHER BRAVE CURFEW THAN HAVE A DRINK WITH LOIS LANE.

LINE 'EM UP, BARKEEP. LOOKS LIKE IT'S GONNA BE A LONG NIGHT...

HI.

I DON'T MEAN TO BOTHER YOU, BUT I SAW YOUR FRIEND HAD TO RUN, AND I WONDERED IF YOU COULD USE SOME COMPANY.

YOU'RE LOIS LANE FROM THE DAILY PLANET, RIGHT? I'M A BIG FAN OF YOUR WORK...



AND I'M A BIG FAN OF A MAN WITH TASTE.

YOU'RE WITH THE METRO STAR, RIGHT...?



THAT'S RIGHT. MY NAME'S JON.

JON CARROLL.



IT WOULD NEVER HAVE WORKED OUT...



SURE, CLARK. YOU JUST KEEP TELLING YOURSELF THAT.



ALL THIS TIME I'VE SPENT
WITH LOIS, FIGHTING FOR
TRUTH, FOR JUSTICE-- BUT
SHE CAN NEVER KNOW THE
TRUTH ABOUT ME...

...ABOUT
SUPERMAN.

I CARE ABOUT HER
TOO MUCH TO MAKE
HER A TARGET FOR
MY ENEMIES...

DC COMICS™ PROUDLY PRESENTS:

SUPERMAN IN
ACTION
COMICS

HYBRID

PART 1

WRITER **ANDY DIGGLE** PENCILS **TONY S. DANIEL** INKS **BATT**
COLORS **TOMEU MOREY** LETTERS **CARLOS M. MANGUAL** COVERS BY **DANIEL & BATT** WITH **MOREY**
ASSOCIATE EDITOR **RICKEY PURDIN** GROUP EDITOR **EDDIE BERGANZA**
SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER

MEANWHILE,
SUPERMAN HAS
A JOB TO DO!





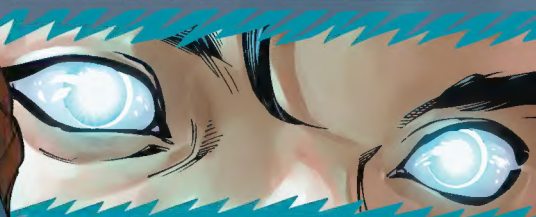
MY CONTACT SAID THE QURACI REGIME IS SMUGGLING ILLEGAL WEAPONS TO CRUSH THE PRO-DEMOCRACY UPRISING...



AND I DON'T LIKE BULLIES.

ACCORDING TO HIS NOTE, THE WEAPONS ARE HIDDEN IN ONE OF THESE CARGO SHIPS.

THOUSANDS OF CONTAINERS ON EACH. BUT IT SHOULD BE EASY ENOUGH TO FIND THE RIGHT ONE...



STRANGE. THE CONTAINERS ARE IMPERVIOUS TO MY SUPER-VISION.

BUT HOW WOULD THEY KNOW TO SHIELD THEM, UNLESS...?

WEAPONS. RIGHT.

OH, BOY.





WAR MACHINES--
CONTROLLED BY
HUMAN PILOTS.

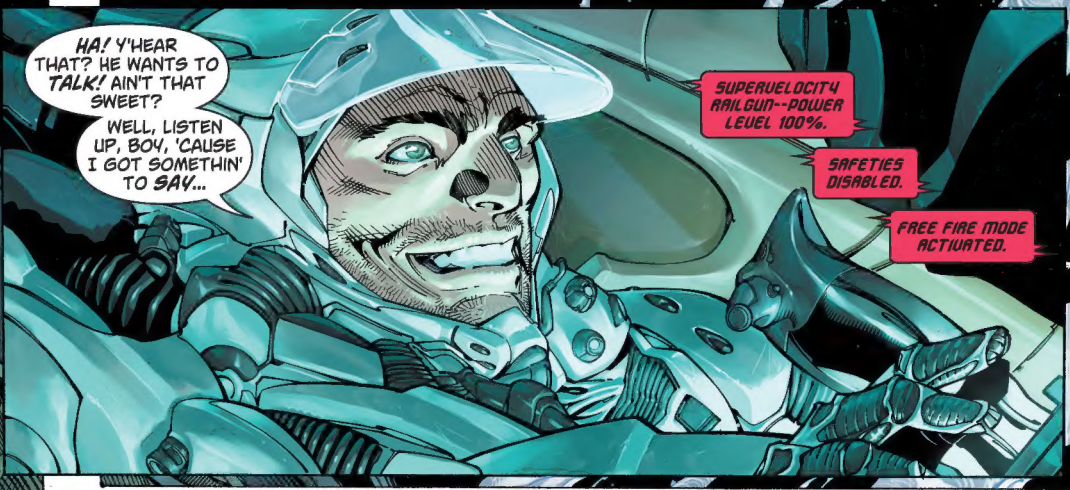
LISTEN
TO ME!

I HAVE
NO QUARREL
WITH YOU...

I CAN HEAR
THEIR HEARTBEATS
BENEATH THE WHINE
OF HYDRAULICS...

AND I'M HERE TO
PROTECT, NOT
TO PROVOKE.

BUT THESE
PEOPLE--ALL
PEOPLE-- ARE UNDER
MY PROTECTION.
POWER
DOWN. AND
LET'S TALK.



HA! Y'HEAR THAT? HE WANTS TO TALK! AIN'T THAT SWEET?

WELL, LISTEN UP, BOY, 'CAUSE I GOT SOMETHIN' TO SAY...

SUPERVELOCITY RAILGUN--POWER LEVEL 100%.

SAFETIES DISABLED.

FREE FIRE MODE ACTIVATED.

BOOM

BOOM



SHRAMM



TRIED TO BE
REASONABLE

WOO!
ALL RIGHT!

YOU SEE
THAT? ONE
SHOT,
BABY!

YEAH!

DIDN'T THROW
THE FIRST
PUNCH

I'LL THROW
THE LAST

CATASTROPHIC
SYSTEMS
FAILURE!

REACTOR
OFFLINE!

EJECT!
EJEHHHZZTT--

HOLY
HELL! I'M
ALL MESSED
UP!

BAILING--!

WAIT.

PHOOM

I'M NOT
DONE WITH
YOU YET.

THAT'S
AN AMERICAN
ACCENT. WHO
SENT YOU?
WHAT ARE YOU
DOING IN GURAC?

BUH BUH
BUH--

SPIT IT
OUT!

BUH-
B-BEHIND
YOU--!







DEPLOYING
INFRASONIC
WEAPON!

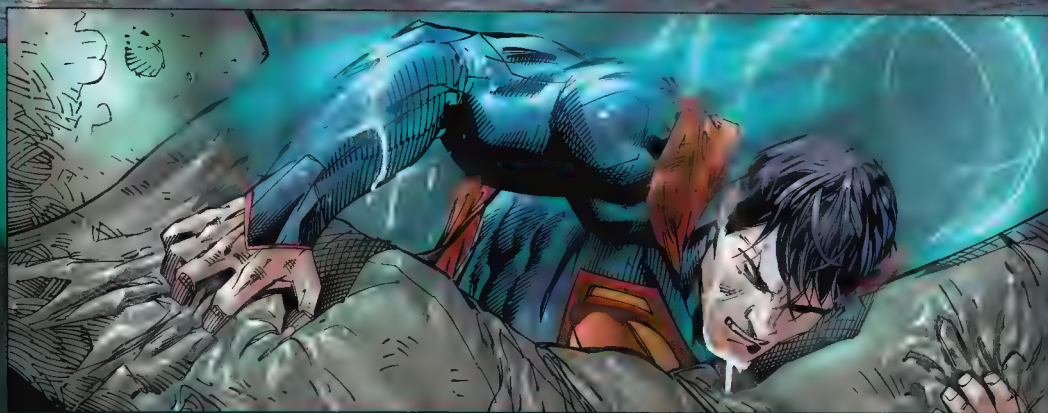
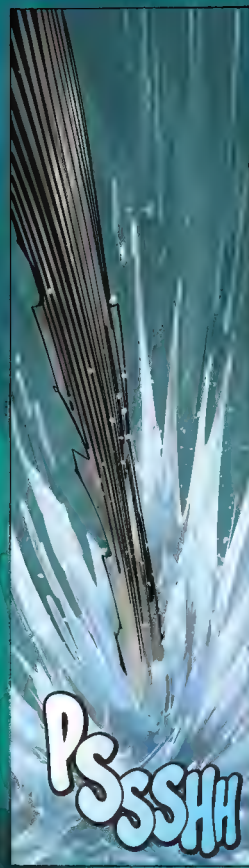
AAAGH!

WHUNNN

GG

NOT SO
TOUGH AFTER
ALL.

PLOOSH



I-IMPOSSIBLE!
HE'S--

**H-HOW
CAN HE--?!**



NOW, THEN.

WHERE WERE WE...?

STILL SLIGHTLY DIZZY FROM THE **RONICS** THEY WERE USING...

THAT--



JIMMY OLSEN?!

S-STAY BACK--!

WE DIDN'T LOOK LIKE THAT A SECOND AGO.

CALM DOWN. I ONLY WANT TO TALK. HOW DID YOU GET HERE FROM--



HE TOLD US NOT TO-- NOT TO--

NNGH! GAHH...

W-WHAT'S HAPPENING--?!



WHAT'S HAPPENING TO MHHHAAAAGH?!



SUBDERMAL THERMITE. HE PROBABLY DIDN'T EVEN KNOW HE WAS CARRYING IT.

I KNOW THAT COULDN'T HAVE ACTUALLY BEEN JIMMY--GOT HIT HARDER THAN I THOUGHT. BUT SOMEONE DOESN'T WANT THESE MEN TO TALK.

WHOEVER IT IS...

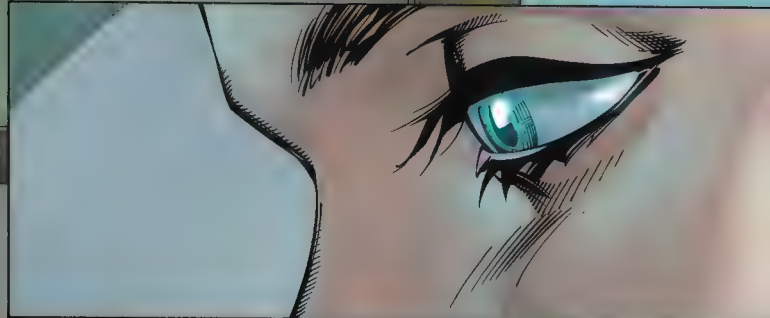
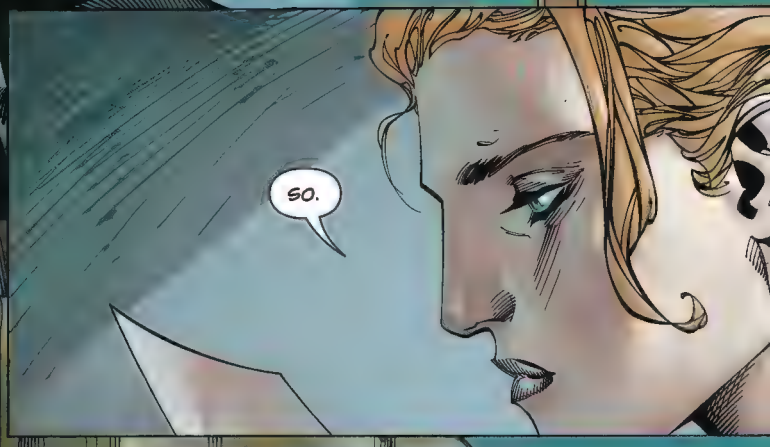
I'M DYING TO
MEET HIM.

GOOD
AFTERNOON,
DOCTOR
LAGARDE.

MISTER
LUTHOR.
COME IN.

PLEASE,
TAKE A
SEAT.

THANK
YOU.





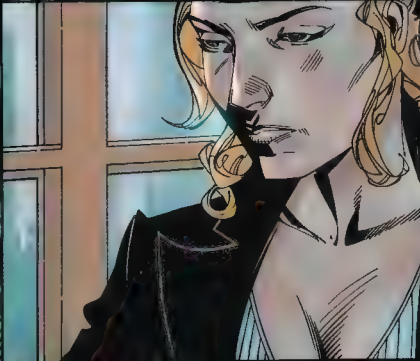
DOCTOR
LAGARDE. YOU HAVE
TREATED PRESIDENTS, NOBEL
LAUREATES, AND MEN WHO
HAVE WALKED ON THE
MOON.

YOU ARE
WIDELY REGARDED
AS THE PREEMINENT
PSYCHOANALYST OF
OUR AGE...

...AND YET I
CANNOT HELP FEELING THAT,
ALL THIS TIME, YOU'VE SIMPLY
BEEN TELLING ME WHAT I
WANT TO HEAR.


UNLESS
THERE'S SOME SORT
OF BREAKTHROUGH IN THE
IMMEDIATE FUTURE, I MAY
HAVE TO...**TERMINATE**
THESE SESSIONS.

SO PLEASE,
SPEAK. DAZZLE WITH
ME THE BRILLIANCE OF
YOUR INSIGHT.



W-WELL, CLEARLY, YOU
ARE A **GENIUS**. B-BUT
YOU EXHIBIT A NUMBER
OF WORRYING
SYMPTOMS.

OBSESSIVE
BEHAVIORS. INABILITY
TO SOCIALIZE OR
EMPATHIZE. APPARENT
LACK OF--OF
CONSCIENCE...



YOUR
EGO HAS BEEN
DAMAGED BY EARLY ABUSE
AND REJECTION BY PARENTAL
AUTHORITY FIGURES, GIVING
RISE TO A--A **MALIGNANT
NARCISSISM**.

TH-THIS
PERFECT STORM
OF FACTORS RENDERS
YOU SUSCEPTIBLE TO
THE DIAGNOSIS OF
BEING--

--IN MY
PROFESSIONAL
OPINION--

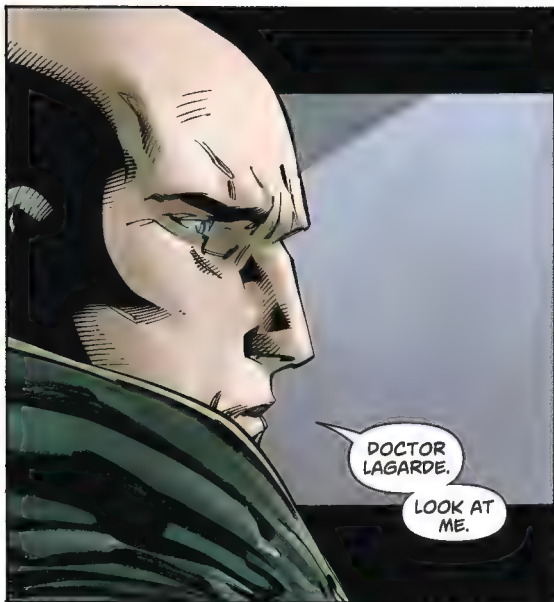
--A
SOCIOPATH.

A
**PSYCHOTIC
MEGALOMANIAC**.

QUITE
POSSIBLY THE MOST
DANGEROUS MAN
ON THE PLANET.

...SIR.





DOCTOR
LAGARDE.

LOOK AT
ME.



I SOLVED
FERMAT'S
LAST THEOREM
WHILE I WAS STILL IN
KINDERGARTEN.

I DREAM IN
ALGORITHMS.

I AM
EXCEPTIONAL.

AND THE
EXCEPTIONAL CANNOT
BE MEASURED NOR JUDGED
BY THE PETTY SCALES OF
CONVENTIONAL THOUGHT.



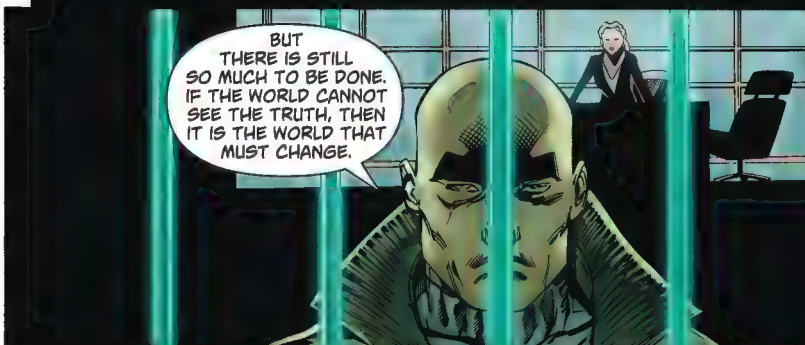
TAKE
SOME TIME TO
RECALIBRATE. WE'LL
SPEAK AGAIN.

SAME
TIME NEXT
WEEK?



AND
THEN...

...AND
THEN WILL
YOU LET ME
GO?



BUT
THERE IS STILL
SO MUCH TO BE DONE.
IF THE WORLD CANNOT
SEE THE TRUTH, THEN
IT IS THE WORLD THAT
MUST CHANGE.



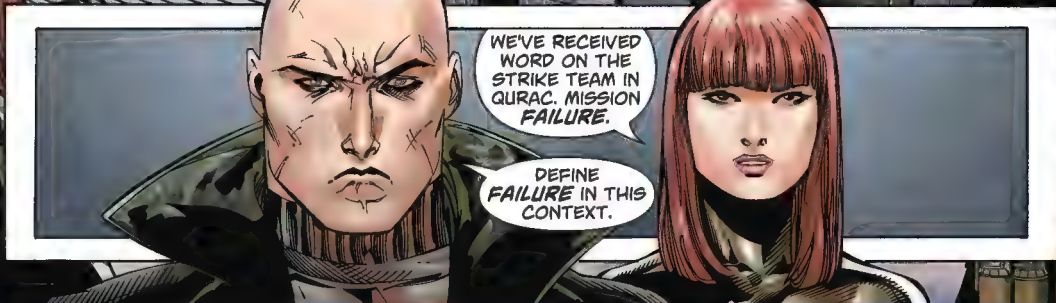
AND I AM
THE ONE TO
CHANGE IT.



YOU KNOW, I'M STARTING TO WONDER IF DOCTOR LAGARDE IS GOING TO BE ABLE TO HELP ME ACHIEVE MY LIFE GOALS AFTER ALL.

HAVE HER CELL MONITORED. I BELIEVE SHE MAY BE A SUICIDE RISK.

YES, SIR.



WE'VE RECEIVED WORD ON THE STRIKE TEAM IN QURAC. MISSION FAILURE.

DEFINE FAILURE IN THIS CONTEXT.



BATTLE MECHS RENDERED INOPERATIVE. PILOTS SELF-TERMINATED.

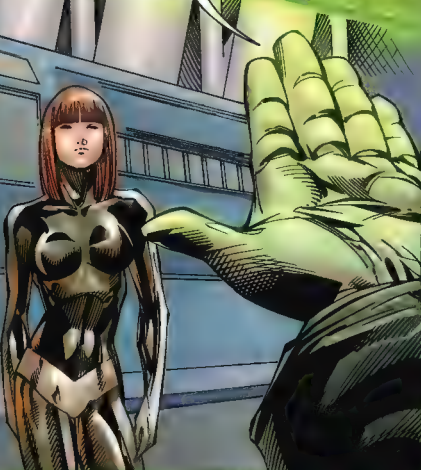
THE MECHS WERE A DISTRACTION, NOTHING MORE. JUST ENOUGH TO TRIGGER A U.S. INVASION.

AS FOR THE SO-CALLED SUPERMAN--ONE NEVER ATTACKS A STRONGER OPPONENT HEAD ON...


YOU USE HIS OWN STRENGTH AGAINST HIM.



EACH HELLSTREAK WARHEAD WAS TIPPED WITH A MICROSCOPIC NANITE PROBE LACED WITH A MOLECULAR SHELL OF PURE KRYPTONITE.



NOT ENOUGH TO KILL. BARELY ENOUGH TO NOTICE. BUT ENOUGH TO PENETRATE HIS ALIEN HIDE...




ANALYZING GENE SEQUENCE...

ANALYSIS COMPLETE.


DOWNLOADING GENETIC DATA.

THERE, YOU SEE? SUPERMAN'S GENETIC BLUEPRINT. THE KEY TO HIS POWERS...

IT'S ACTUALLY QUITE BEAUTIFUL, ISN'T IT? FOR A SPACE MONSTER, I MEAN.



ONCE I'VE UNLOCKED THE SECRETS OF HIS GENETIC STRUCTURE, I CAN PROGRAM THE NANITE TO MODIFY AND REPLICATE WHATEVER GENES I DICTATE!



I CAN RECODE HIS DNA FROM THE INSIDE OUT. PLAY HIM LIKE A STRADIVARIUS...

I PUT A TINY DEATH MACHINE INSIDE HIM, AND HE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW IT.

METROPOLIS

THREE WEEKS LATER

INITIATING SECURE
UPLINK...QUANTUM
DECRYPT--GOOD

NEW GENETIC
TEMPLATE--
RECEIVED...

REPLICATION
PROTOCOL...

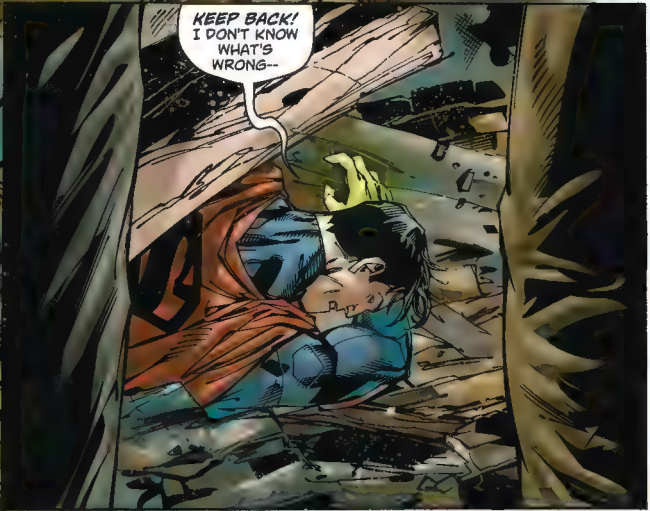
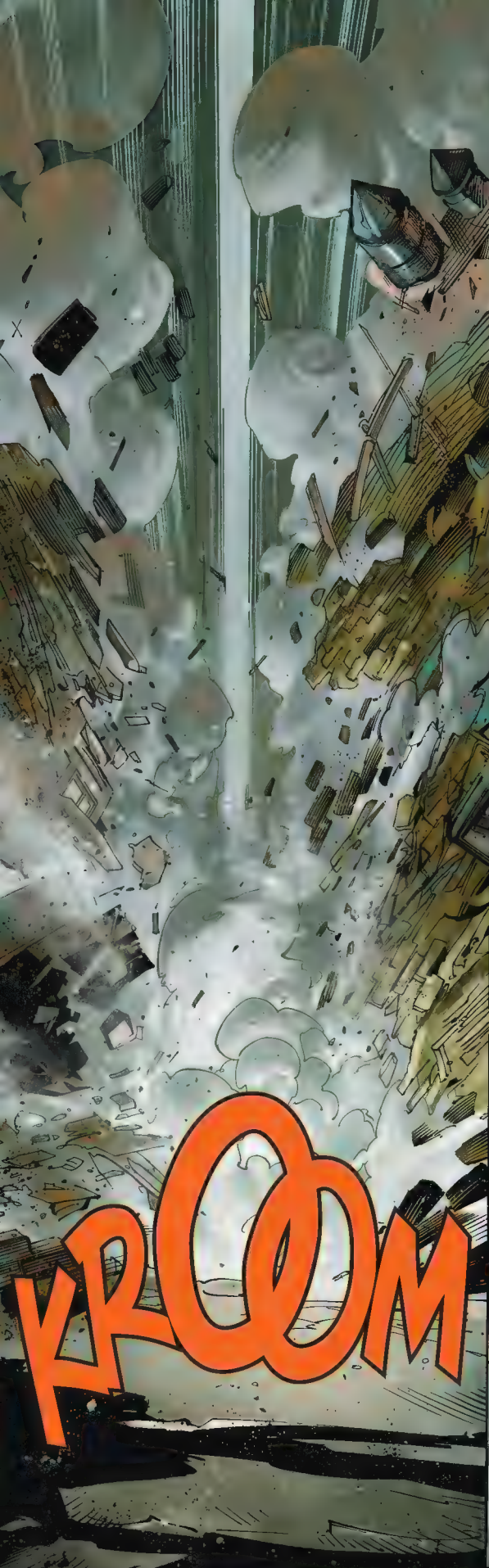
...ENGAGE.

AAAGH!



MY HAND--

SUDDEN
AGONY--





...AND IT'S
SPREADING!

NEXT ISSUE:
THE BEAST WITHIN!

THE **HYBRID**

THREAT CONTINUES...

...IN **ACTION**
COMICS
#20



AND

ACTION
COMICS
#21



THEN THINGS TO COME...



AN ALTERNATE VERSION OF THE VARIANT COVER BY
TONY S. DANIEL, MATT BANNING & TOMEU MOREY

ALL THE NEWS NOW: WHEN TO FLY? WHAT'S THEIR FRICTION? WELCOME TO FLORIDA! WARNING THE FLASH. WARPED TIME FEATURE. WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY

WELCOME BACK TO CHANNEL 52 NEWS!

WE'RE GOING TO BREAK AWAY TO A LIVE REPORT FROM GOTHAM CITY WHERE AN ENTIRE CITY BLOCK HAS COME UNDER ATTACK FROM DOZENS OF HUMANS THAT HAVE MUTATED INTO BATS!

OUR REPORTER A. BUG IS IN THE C52 ACTION NEWS CHOPPER ABOVE THE CITY TRYING TO ASSESS THE PANDEMONIUM.

BUG, WHAT CAN YOU TELL US?

CHANNEL 52

BETHANY SNOW...C52 ANCHOR

BETHANY, IT IS ABJECT HORROR IN GOTHAM, WHERE NORMAL CITIZENS HAVE BEEN INEXPLICABLY TRANSFORMED INTO GIANT BLOODTHIRSTY MONSTERS!

THESE "MAN-BATS," IF YOU WILL, ARE AN UNSTOPPABLE FORCE PREPARING TO FEAST ON THE CORPSES OF THE SLAUGHTERED INNOCENTS.

AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT I ASSUME IS HAPPENING SINCE WE TECHNICALLY NEVER LEFT FOR GOTHAM. I COULDN'T DETERMINE IF THE OUTBREAK WAS IN THE 197TH STREET AREA OR THE 900 BLOCK OF MIDTOWN.

BEFORE HE LEFT, THE PILOT WAS ALL LIKE, "WHEN YOU'RE DONE PLAYING MAP DETECTIVE YOU SHOULD GET ANOTHER GUY CRAZY ENOUGH TO DO THIS."

AND THEN I WAS ALL, LIKE, "HMM. MAYBE IT'S IRRESPONSIBLE REPORTING TO GO FLYING DIRECTLY INTO MAN-BAT COUNTRY WITHOUT CALLING AHEAD FIRST."

SO IN THE INTERESTS OF CHANNEL 52'S JOURNALISTIC INTEGRITY, I DECIDED TO STAY PUT.

ALL THE NEWS NOW: WHEN TO FLY? WHAT'S THEIR FRICTION? WELCOME TO FLORIDA! WARNING THE FLASH. WARPED TIME FEATURE. WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY

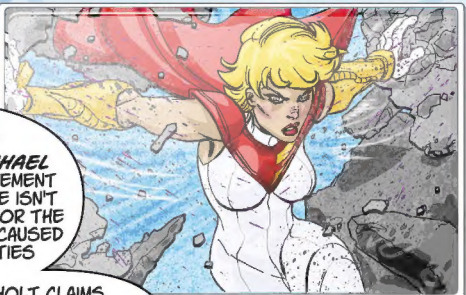
THANK YOU, BUG...

A SPOKESPERSON FOR THE MAYOR'S OFFICE SAID THAT GCPD OFFICERS ARE WORKING TO CONTAIN THE SITUATION AND THAT THE NATIONAL GUARD CAN BE CALLED IN IF ANY OF THE CITY'S COSTUMED VIGILANTES OR SUPER-POWERED CRIMINALS EXACERBATE THE SITUATION BY BECOMING INVOLVED.

ALL THE NEWS
NOW:
WHEN TO FLY?


IN OTHER NEWS--
RECLUSIVE **HOLT**
INDUSTRIES CEO **MICHAEL**
HOLT RELEASED A STATEMENT
TODAY EXPLAINING WHY HE ISN'T
PURSUING LEGAL ACTION FOR THE
DAMAGES **POWER GIRL** CAUSED
TO ONE OF HIS FACILITIES
THIS WEEK.

FEATURE
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
FRIDAY



HOLT CLAIMS
THAT THE MATTER IS
"PERSONAL" AND "MORE
COMPLEX THAN REGULAR
HUMANS CAN
PERCEIVE."

NOW WE TAKE
YOU TO OUR SPORTS
REPORTER **VARTOX** IN
FLORIDA FOR SPRING TRAINING,
WITH A SURPRISING PICK TO BE
HOME RUN KING THIS YEAR...



ENOUGH OF THIS SILLY
CHILD'S GAME,
BETHANY!




NONE OF
THESE BASEBALLERS
CAN COMPETE WITH
VARTOX!

I WAS GOING
TO GIVE YOU A DISPLAY OF
MY SPORTS POWER WHEN
I SAW HER IN YOUR
REPORT!


MY FUTURE
QUEEN! REGALE ME
WITH MORE TALES OF
THIS "POWER GIRL!"

ALL THE NEWS
NOW:
WELCOME TO
FLORIDA!
WHAT'S THEIR
FRICTION?
WARNING
THE FLASH.
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FEATURE.
WEDNESDAY,
THURSDAY,
FRIDAY
WHEN TO FLY?




SPEAKING OF
PREDICTIONS FOR THE
LEAGUE--I'M PRETTY SURE
POWER GIRL IS OUT OF
YOURS!

WE HAVE SUCH A
GOOD TIME WITH EACH OTHER
HERE AT CHANNEL 52, FOLKS...



ALL THE NEWS
NOW:
WELCOME TO
FLORIDA!
WHAT'S THEIR
FRICTION?
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WHEN TO FLY?



AFTER
THE BREAK--
CALENDAR MAN
WILL HAVE THE DETAILS
OF TROUBLE IN PARADISE
FOR MOVIE STAR
AND SUPERHERO
ANIMAL MAN.

YOU'RE WATCHING
CHANNEL 52!

